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ALL UNSIGNED COMMUNICATIONS WILL BE REJECTED.
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WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 1903.

SAVE THE STUMPER.

We do not participate in the fears nome persons entertain that the pure election's bill is doomed to disaster in the House of Delegates. Our information and belief is that it will be amendid there-but not radically-and passed, and that the Senate probably will concur in the amendments.

Mr. Barksdale, the author of the bill has never claimed that it is perfect, and has always invited suggestions for its Improvement, but he insists, as the puble does, that the main object shall be kept in view-that there shall be a sincere purpose to prevent bribery and "short cuts" in elections, and that those shall be properly punished.

It has been objected that the Barks dale bill would, or might, prevent the rending out of speakers to address the people upon the political issues of the day-that that would come within the dist of monetary expenditures prohibited- announcement said: but gentlemen in whose judgment we have great confidence do not construe It that way. They think the party chairmen still would have that privilege. There is a difference between an individial's sending out speakers, or agents, in his own selfish behalf, and the party chairman sending forth "stumpers" in the interest of the public.

Whatever may be done in the other directions, we must not extinguish the health and strength to take the hine off the other fellows' fellow and to help make those "red letter days" which are pondents.

teangelastic hand upon the stump speaker. He is an "institution." Whether he originated in Virginia or in the West. he has become part and parcel of ou political system, and he wants to talk and the people want to hear him. To shut his mouth would be a cruelty to him and an outrage upon the Virginia public. Hence we beg our legislators not to t'e up party chairmen so that they cannot make expenditures to send stump speakers here and there as they may b needed throughout the State. "The stump" is the school of the statesman in this part of the country and should not be neglected in this day of educational

to the farthest practicable limit in the lirection of discouraging fraud. That's the point! And there's where we hope it will have close attention and earn-

ist support from members.

In the matter of legalizing primary elections it seems to us that the law t be passed should, as nearly as possible onform to the general elections law That would be in the interest of simplisity and, therefore, in the interest of effectiveness. The law should be so plain and be able to note every infraction or

We repeat that we expect to see a purelections law passed, and we entertain he hope that it will be the capstone of the work done by the Constitutional Convention on the suffrage question.

GHARGE OF SENTIMENT.

Our attention is directed by the New of the Banking and Currency Committee on the currency bill, known as the "Fowler bill." The report is made by Mr. W. J. Talbert (S. C.), and is signed members of the committee, Messrs, Thaver (Mass.), Lewis (Ga.), Pugsley (N. Y. and Padgett (Tenn.), while Fr. Bartlett (Ga.) concurs in the main. The report begins with a very practical and search ing criticism of our present National bank currency as defective and inelastic, pre Higated upon an inadequate banking prin ciple, and declares that the bank cur rency system of the country should no rest solely upon a government debt represented by bonds. Such an arrange ment is condemned as mischlevous in two directions; the tendency is to contract the currency when bonds are hig and currency is most needed and to in flate it when bonds are low and the legitimate business of the country does not demand an increase. The report continues with the following forcible and reasonable statement:

These we consider improper banking conditions, and the currency of the coun try should not be predicated solely upo-such conditions. We believe that th banks of the country, under proper and legislation, safeguarded so as to se cure a sound and solvent currency, or agents and instrumentalities to issu the currency of the country, and we fur-ther believe that the legislation should be ther believe that the legislation should be so framed as to permit the issuance of an amount of currency at all times ade-quate and sufficient for the business needs of the country, and which would be re-tired when not needed for the transaction of legitimate business.

This is most interesting, and to u most gratifying, as indicating a decided change in sentiment on the part of Southern Democrats on the currency question. The National bank system has been the curse of the South and is responsible for all our wees in this direction. We have abundant bankable assets in the South, and the banks could easily supply all the currency needed if they were not prevented by the government from

under the prohibitory tax on the issues of State banks these have not been able to issue currency, and the Southern peoplo have been compelled to rely upon the mancial conters to get money from time to time to move their crops and carry

No wonder the Bouthern people a few years ago were in favor of the free coinage of silver, for that seemed to offer the only remedy for the currency faminc. Many men who were in doubt on the question of free coinage advocated it on the plea that it was the only reme dy that had been offered and that some remedy for the evil was imperative. We firmly believe that if there had been no prohibitory tax on State bank issues, if the banks of the South had been left free to issue currency under proper restrictions, there had been no free silve agitation, for there had been no occa-

For reasons which need not here be discussed, prosperity has come and the situation has for the time being been in part relieved. But the demand for a belter currency system is still upon us, and unless some relief is forthcoming there will be another pinch by and by, and there will be another agitation for more money. The South is not now asking for the free coinage of sliver; it is asking for better currency system, as indicated in the report of the minority committee above quoted, and the sooner this de mand is met by the general governmen the better it will be for the government and for the business interests of the whole country.

THE SAME EVERYWHERE.

On Sunday last the Rev. Dr. Charles that at the Wednesday Evening Prayer Meeting there would be an address by a negro missionary, and in making the

announcement said:

"Even at this day, so long after the proclamation of emancipation, there is in many parts of the South a condition of vertable slavery. Although we claim to be a civilized people, there is a degree of barbarism in our treatment of the black race that is not exceeded in any part of the world. And although we send out missionaries to Christianize other lands, there are communities in the South as sun-Christian as any part of heathendom." A Southerner who happened to be in the church at the time arose and politely in formed Dr. Parkhurst that he was mistken as to the situation in the South. Th negroes were treated properly, he asserted and no credence was to be given to the sensational reports of their system-

atic ill-treatment,
Dr. Parkhurst asked him about the 'Grandfather Clause'' in the Constitutions of some of the Southern States, and again asked him about lynchings, the Southerner making courteous replies, but standing up manfully for his people.

On that very day attempts were made in four different Pennsylvania towns to lynch a negro who had committed an as stult upon a white child. The story is told by a correspondent of the Philadelphia Record, writing from Taylorstown. Pa. After the negro was captured nd when the constable arrived to take him away a large crowd of people congregated, threatening vengeance. stable secured a guard and started to the train with the negro, intending to bring him to the county jail at Taylorstown The rest of the story is told by the correspondent. We quote:

respondent. We quote:

"The officers with the prisoner in their midst, and with drawn revolvers, fought their way through the crowd and succeeded in getting their man aboard.
"At Clayville a mob of 300 men had gathered with a rope, determined to lynch the man, but the car doors were locked and an officer stood at each entrance with a revolver, and the crowd was cowed."

"Jefferson was taken off at Taylors town in order that he might be identified. Here, also, the officers were compelled to fight their way through the

As they entered the house Dr. Conger sprang in front of the negro with a drawn revolver and discharged the weapon at the cowering negro. An officer knocked his arm up and the showhizzed through the air, within a few nches of Jefferson's face. Conger was hen held until he identified the man when he was again placed on board the train and brought here this evening.

"A crowd had gathered here, but there was no great demonstration, and the prisoner was safely landed in jall, fol-

lowed up the streets by a hooting, threat-ening mob of people.

"The negro had to be carried the last few blocks, as he was completely over-come with terror. An extra guard has been placed on the juli here, as a dem-onstration by the residents of Taylors-town is expected."

We woulder if the Parkhurst will refer

We wonder if Dr. Parkhurst will refer to this incident at the prayer-meeting service this evening. Why did be not refer to the numerous race riots that have occurred in New York city within the past year or two? In some of these riots assaults were made upon negroes simply because they were negroes, and it was all the police could do to keep the blacks from being torn to pieces by the

We do not justify or excuse lynching, We do not believe in mob law, but it arouses our indignation when Northern men try to make it appear that the South is worse in this respect than the North. There are more race clashes in the South than in the North for the reason that there are more negroes in the South, but wherever there is a large collection of negroes in any Northern community here the race question exists and there the bad negro is summarily punished by the indignant whites, whenever he goes on the rampage.

Dr. Parkhurst and those like him, who consider these facts, should also ask themselves the question why it is, if they are treated so much worse in the South than in the North, that the negroes de not pick themselves up in a body and move into Northern territory?

An interesting story comes from Peters burg to the effect that a member of the Council who has been useful has decided to retire because of criticism. He says that he does not mind the work, but he has been called a liar and a thick and otherwise abused by the dear public, and he has grown tired of the thankless job. There is a lesson in this to the dear public. Many good men, doubtless, refuse o serve in the Council for that reason The National banking system is not No pay is attached to the office and if a

adapted to the needs of the South, yet Councilman does his duty he has plenty of work to do. But if he receives no pay and no thanks, and gets nothing but harsh criticism and abuse for his services, it is not strange that sensitive men should shun the position. Of course, public officials are proper subjects of criticism, but there is a decent way to do everything, and when an honest Councilman does what he believes to be right, the public should be very careful how they criticise.

In the Boston Globe of last Sunday

George Alfred Townsend says: "Statuary is more talked about than observed. A New Yorker was railing in my presence about there being no statue of DeWitt Clinton in the city that he almost created. I told him that a large and important statue of Clinton

large and important statue of Clinton was in Greenwood Cernetery, erected by the public, and that it resembled the German poet, Goethe.

"So when they are talking at Richmond, Va., about putting Robert E. Lee in the Capitol he threatened, but never took, few of them know that Lee is already there. He was painted by Brumid in the eye of the dome in the group of "Anarchy" which consists of Davis, Lee, Jackson, Stephens and Calhoun, all carrying torches and looking like cartoons of Millon."

If that is true, it is a disgrace to the nation, and it seems to us that it is time for some patriotic member of Congress

As we said the other day, when General Pettus was re-elected to the United States Senate from Alabama, that State has in the Senate the two oldest members of the body. There are, however, several others who have passed the three-score and ten notch. The following list, with the date of their birth, shows who are the old men

1821-Pettus, of Alabama. 1824-Morgan, of Alabama. 1826-Hoar, of Massachusetts; Hawley,

of Connecticut. 1827-Platt, of Connecticut; Stewart, of

Nevada. 1829-Cullom, of Illinois; Allison, of Iowa. 1820-Jones, of Nevada; Teller, of Colorado; Vest, of Missouri.
1831-Proctor, of Vermont; Frye, of

Nearly all of these Senators have served longer than General Pettus, and the probability is that all, or the most of them, as well as the Alabamian, will remain in the Senate as long as they live.

An esteemed contemporary down South is tangled up on the prosperity question, and which ever way he looks he finds "Complaints," says this trouble in it. troubled contemporary, "are coming in from all sides that while the general rise in prices has carried such necessaries as food and clothing up to a point where It may soon become too expensive to live some other commodities connected with the burial have grown so costly that poor persons cannot afford to die.

A distinguished physician, with a perchant for investigating things, claims to have distilled from pine leaves an essence most soothing to consumptive lungs. He thinks he will be able by this discovery to send the balm of the pine forests of the Carolinas, Georgia and Florida to those who for any cause find it impos sible to visit those life-giving sections.

The despised pine has already been fur nishing us with resin, tar and pitch that have proven valuable in various ways and now it seems that we are to find in it the long looked for cure for consump-

written line upon line in adocacy of a civil improvement association in this city; or, as we have put it, a soclety for the promotion of public cleanliness and public ornamentation. We are glad to hear that a movement is now on foot to organize such an association It is a noble movement, and we hope i will succeed. It will succeed if the ladler of the city will take hold of it."

The member of the Legislature who objects to the Barksdale pure elections bill because "It is an insinuation that there has been crooked work in former elections," is simply too pure and inno cent to bump up against this wicked old world.

Senator Wellington's proposed law to Emit individual fortunes to ten million dollars will not apply to newspaper para graphists. They will be allowed to go right on and make a hundred million i they want to.

If we mistake no brought out before the Anthracite Commission would make a Virginia jury bring in a verdict against the operators

In New York the other day a girl got verdict for \$7,000 for the loss of her hand That seems high, but there are many cirls in New York where hands are worth far more than that-in matrimony.

They are talking about cutting a pay State out of parts of Montana and North Dakota and naming it Montague. The name is all right if there are any people in that region, but we would hate to have the name stuck on to a pocket borough

Mr. Bryan is going to Baltimore to deliver a lecture, and while he is there he will try his hand at harmonizing the war ring Democrats of that city-a tough toh

Dr Parkhurst has resumed business in New York, and his daily eruptions furnish all the volcano news the sensational papers want. Utah is legislating against the hoboes,

Its Legislature has just passed an act

making October 1st "soap and water

King Edward can't have a mild attack of influenza without the London marke

getting a case of indigestion. It is said that Senator Hanna has drop ped Addicks and is now wondering wha

in the world he ever picked him up for. The Sultan seems to be consoring the cable dispatches from the Moroccon seat of war.

W th a Comment or Two. Some politicians are like the proyer-plat ground-hog-afraid to see their shad-ow.—Fredericksburg Pree Lance. And semetimes fice when no shadow

The Charlotte Observer makes the very good point that "It is amazing how much

public contiment there is in South Caro-lina against carrying pistols and how lit-tic against their use." And this kind of thing is not peculiar to South Carolina.

So far Aguinaldo's banfing scheme does not seem to have taken the country by storm.—Columbus Enquirer-Sun.

The best thing to do with the Baxter St. Louis Exposition appropriation bill is to pass it. Tennessee cannot afford not be represented at St. Louis next year.—Nashville American. Cortainly not. Geographically and otherwise Tennessee should be right by virginla's side at the St. Louis show.

In denying a rumor that he would ac In denying a rumor that he would accept a place on the United States District Court bench, Sonator Bacon, of Georgia, declares that he "would not abandon the position of senator from Georgia to accept any office under the government." There are a good many other statesmen in and out of the Senate who would assent to that proposition.—Columbia State.

This seems to mean, read between the lines, to serve notice on Georgia, that Mr. Bacon intends to stay in the Senate as long as Georgia is willing.

If "Gooseneck" bill could only get anyone clies to take him as seriously as he takes himself, he might yet become a formidable figure in Republican politics in Texas.—Houston Post.

"Gooseneck" Bill is the Texas statesman of color, who poses as Mr. Roosevelt's advisor when Federal offices for Texas are to be disposed of.

Personal and General.

The fiftieth anniversary of Archbishop Ryan's ordination next September will be observed by a jubilee celebration arranged by the clergy of the archdiocese of Philadelphia.

Andrew Lang, the English author, will visit the United States this year. He will also visit Samoa, Stovenson's exile home, Lang having been very intimate with the novelist.

Admiral Schley, accompanied by Col-and Mrs. A. K. McClure, of Philadelphia, is to make an extended tour of the West, going as far West as Southern Californla, v where the early spring will

The artistic treasures which J. Pierpont Morgan is keeping in London, because of the high tariff, are increasing so rapidly that his house at Prince's date cannot accommodate them.

There was a most ridiculous performance in New York the other day by the Marble Cutters' Union, showing to what extremes red tapery can be carried. The marble slab for the stairs in the city hall came from Vermont, and it was suspected that scab labor had been employed. To purge them of this stain they were carted away by a union wagon to a union marble-cutting establishment, and hauled back just as they were. Then the work was allowed to go on, after an interruption of ten days.

A copy of Hawthorne's rarest book, "Fanshawe." was sold in Boston last week for \$50, a few small imperfections perhaps preventing it from reaching the record price of \$80. The value of first editions of Hawthorne is not likely to decrease.

John P. Jones, of Nevada, retires from the United States Senate next month after serving continuously for thirty years—a record exceeded by only three men in the history of that body. He entered the Senate in 1878, or the year of silver demonetization, and he made that guestion a specificily ever after. question a specialty ever after.

It is reported from Copenhagen that the Sith birthday of King Christian, which occurs on April 8th, next, there will be no less than three Emperors in the Danish capital-King Edward, the Car and the Kaiser. It is added to preparations for the birthday festivil are being kept from the King as much possible and that the celebrations will of the most splendid kind.

NORTH CAROLINA. SENTIMENT.

NORTH CAROLINA. SENTIMENT.
The Chariotte Observer furnishes a considerable amount of North Carolina sentiment in the following:
The Commercial Club of this city, endorses, in a carefully prepared paper, the Fewler bill providing for an asset currency. The Wilmington chamber of commerce has likewise endorsed this measure. The Commercial Club recommends amendment to the bill but cordially favors the principle, which appears to be growing in favor all over the country as rapidly as it is being understood.

The Greensboro Telegram rises to re-

nark: Senator Wellington needn't trouble to get through that amendment of his pro hibiting the holding of fortunes exceeding ten millions. Just alter the tariff and a few other things that favor the few at the expense of the rich and the pana-

The Greensboro Record speaks the sentiment of a great many good people in

timent of a great many good people in the following:

There is only one punishment to fit the crime of wife-beating and that is the lash. The moral law hangs a man who wilfully and with premeditation kills another. On the same basis of reasoning a man who beats his wife should himself be lambasted until he cannot sit down for

The Charlotte News, for once, seems to favor high tarlift, It says:
It is rumored that the Crown Princess Louise and M. Giron are coming to this country. What is the tarliff on foreign Princesses and French tutors? Can't it be raised for a short time so as to bar these importations?

The Raieigh Times, referring to the opposition that is springing up in some parts of the North to placing the Lee statue in Washington, says:

"Well let the fanatics dave their way, In a few years they will be no more and then the statue of Lee will be honored both on the Cettysburg field and in statuary hall. However, do not force things. All will come about in good time as surely as justice finally triumphs over injustice and right eventually prevails over wrong." over wrong.'

A Georgia Romancer.

Harry Edwards writes "that President Roosevelt is one of the best friends of Southern people and the South that he has ever known." We have often said that Mr. Edwards is the best writer of romance in the South.-Savannah Press

Dewey on Deck.

Not much has been heard lately from Admiral Dewey and his fleet of warships in the Caribbean Sea, but the attention of Berlin is directed to the fact that he is still there, ready for business, and that he does not like the Hohenzollerns wery well, either.—Kansas City Star. For the Virginia Editors.

Now for the beautiful and luscious strawberry. Advanced specimens have been with us and on the tables of mil-

lionaires for two weeks—the greater world will now be allowed to sample the delicacy. The crop is fars and promises to be abundant, but the earliest in the market stamps the social status of fre feast.—Piorida Times-Union.

Harmless Drugs. A good many of the anti-corporation have being formulated are like the famous medicine which was guaranteed not to do the patient any harm, even if it did him no good.—Cincinnati Enquirer,

An Hour With

The Reanoke World voices the views of all the Southland in the following:
Senator Depew, when he said in the Benate Saturday that the time would come when the only persons connected with our late Civil War who would be remembered were Grant, Lee and Lincoln, would have been much nearer correct it he had added Stonowall Jackson to the list. This last is "one of the immortal names that were not born to die."

The Augusta Argus says: Will son The Augusta Argus says! Will some microscopic expert go searching for the brnins of the Governor of Pennsylvania who reproached Andrew Carnegis for scattering in other States the money he made from the State of Pennsylvania? If wealth had not poured into Pennsylvania from the entiro world Mr. Carnegio's broad munificence would have been an impossibility. Impossibility.

The Fredericksburg Star is getting alarmed. It says: "Its true that more men were killed and wounded before breakfast on the skirmish line in the war of 1861-55 than fell in all the battles of the Spanish embrogilo; but these things count nothing, for hero making was not in it then. The lecture field was not then so profitable as now; people did not want to hear the sad story, even from the lips of one of the heroes. It this thing goes on, in the next war we have we must prepare in advance for the heroes.

The Fredericksburg Free Lance never lets up on the good roads question. Here is its latest:

Is there not sentiment enough in this section of Virginia to start a movement for decent roads? We believe there is, but there seems to be no one who is willing to take the lead. Lancaster country has held a convention and a movement willing to take the lead. Entitle the try has held a convention and a movement is well under way looking toward the building of good roads. Let the people of this section take like action and give to this part of Virginia highways of which they need not feel ashamed.

The Newport News Press has been working on signs and wonders, and has reached this conclusion:
The yellowish color of the water near the river's head at this time of the year does not justify calling the stream the Sunny IIIs. Sunny Jim.

The Newport News Times-Hernle says: Jim Hayes has not yet reached the zenith of his fame, as no theatrical agent has yet made him a proposition for an engagement.

WISE AND OTHERWISE.

A True Picture.

The bulls and bears furnish the ex-crement in the wheat pit, while the don-keys who throng the bucket shops carry the bag.

The Only Course.

Hopeful Hamkins—De leddy nex' door give me some angel cake. Could you nelp me a little?

Mrs. Stonehart—Sure. The doctor lives at the second door, three blocks down,—Chicago Dally News.

Down South. Blue skies
And true skies
"Way down South;
Clear fields,
And fair fields
"Way down South, Then give your hat a feather In the bright and bracing weather Go singing all together,
'Way down South!
-Frank Stanton in Constitution,

Lost His Job.

First Printer—Not working now, eh?
Second Printer—Naw, fired. Proprietor's wife sent in a poem entitled "Polly's Dimples," I'd had a sosh on the night before and I couldn't set it up any way but "Dolly's Pimples" to save my life, Dono of something doin', do you?—Baltimore American.

A Marvel.

"What do you think is the most extraordinary invention of the age?"

"The phonograph," answered Mr. Meekton, promptly, "the way that machine stands and talks back to Henrietta post-tively takes my breath away."—Washing Star.

The Ruling Passion.

"He was a liar to the last," said the "He was." "Yes; swore he would die with his boots on, and they lynched him in slippers!"— Atlanta Constitution.

Small Loophole

The Court—Have you any defense to this charge of blackmailing? Defendant—Sure, Judgel He lies when he says I demanded money, I tol' 'im a certified check w'd do.

More Needed.

There's room at the top, aye, room for

Philosophers declare,
But there must be more at the bottom, for
The greater number's there.—Philadel-

Skort Talks to the Legislature Charlottesville\Progress: The Barks-dale "pure elections bill" ought to be-come a law. It passed the Senate by an almost unanimous vote, but has been come a law. It passed the Senate by an almost unanimous vote, but has been "help up" in the House. What is the matter? The people of the State and the press of the State are carnestly in favor of it. What are the influences in the House of Delegates that are attempting to thwart the pronounced public sentiment of the State?

Norfolk Landmark: It is hardly necessary to say that the efficiency of the Corporation Commision will depend very Corporation Commision will depend very much upon the officiency and independence of its chief technical adviser; but this reminds us to warn the Legislature against putting the secretary's compensation so low that no man of the required calibre could afford to accept the place. Eitlier the secretary of the commission will have to be paid good living wages, or he will not be equal to his responsibilities.

Portsmouth Star: For our part, the Portsmouth Star: For our part, the Legislature can draw on us for unlimited sympathy. Suddenly and without due preparation, that august bedy has been called upon to do unacoustomed work. From how not to legislate for honest elections, it finds itself in a position where it must frame and pass a really honest election law, That's sudden. It's also cruel. Be patient with the Legislature. A blacksmith set to do a lowyer's work must go painfailly slow, It's that way with a Walton law Legislature at work on a pure election law,

Norfolk Ledger: Virginia is surely not going to give itself a black eye by re-fusing to make the desired appropriation to the Jamestown Exposition! Or course, not.

Up-to-date Chicago.

Chicago is to have a teacher who will teach its people to eat horse meat uncon-cealed in sausages and canned goods. Open plain horse meat is quite different from horse meat by the underground route.—Birmingham Ago-Horald.

Trend of Thought Virginia Editors. In Dixio Land In Dixie Land

Augusta Chronicle:
Congress must save the Inter-State
Commerce Commission. To put it under the Department of Commerce and
Labor would be to fatally impair it.

Charlestown Post:

Charlestown Post:

Horrors upon honors, are related in the press dispatches these days. Yesterday there were two dreadful train wrecks, two of minor account and a severe boiler explosion reported in our dispatches. The death list of the days accidents covered in this cursory sweep will be about forty and the injured probably 150. We are paying heavy toll for the rush and hurry of our modern life.

Atlanta Journal: Atlanta Journal:
We hear of the Olney boom, the Parker boom, the Hill boom and the Gorman boom almost every day; but, fortunately, there has been no recrudes-cence of the Bryan boom of late.

Montgomeryl Advertiser
If that Indianola affair is to come up
for ventilation or discussion in the senate the remarks that Senator Carmack is expected to make will render any other method of heating the senate chamber unnecessary.

Chattanooga Times: There is no rejoicing over the election of Mr. Teller to succeed himself as senator from Colorado. Neither party has any use for a politician with such a record as this man has made.

Nashville Banner:
President Roosevelt's oration on McKinley was a splendid tribute to a
great man's memory. What a pity the
President cannot confine his talents
to this broad and sane manner of treattions of the special designating of dissipanting

The Peddler's License Tax.

ing subjects instead of dissipating them in a way that angers the people.

The Peddler's License Tax.

Editor of the Times-Dispatch:

Sir,—If there ever was a law enacted to the disadvantage of the poor and middle classes, it is the unreasonable and unbusiness-like law which places the tax of a retail peddler of fruits, vegetables, poultry and produce of all kinds on the streets of Richmond from a one-horse wagon at \$500 a year to the State and \$100 to the city, making a total of \$200,

These peddlers sell on an average of \$25 worth of marketing a day, most of which is seld direct to the class of people who cannot pay the average price for such produce, fruits, etc., charged by the green grocers and market hucksters.

It is not my intention to champion the cause of the peddlers, but it is my desire to see any and all kinds of necessities and luxuries placed in the reach of the poor people, as well as in the reach of the more fortunate, "from a financial standpoint."

Who had this high prohibitory law

more fortunate, "from a financial standpoint."

Who had this high prohibitory law
passed? The retail grocers and market
hucksters. Why did they want such a
law passed? Simply for protection to
their business. How does it protect the
retail dealers? By keeping the pedders
off the market, thus enabling them (the
retail dealers) to charge and get such
profits on their goods as they may see
st. The peddier does business in a different manner from most retail dealers.
They buy large quantities of fruits, vegciables, chickens, eggs. etc., at a reasonable cash price and then start out
immediately to sell their marketing from
door to door to the class of people who
as a rule should have the benefit of the
low prices which often exist with the
wholesale dealers, but which under exskiling laws the consumer never gets the
bunefit of. How would the peddier bring
about the desired change? By selling
whatever he buys at a small margin,
thereby creating a demand for these articles which would not be used if the closeselling peddler is kept out.

cles which would not be used if the close-selling peddler is kept out.

The grocer will fell you that the peddler never buys anything fit to sell anyone. This sort of talk is nonsense and is a reflection on the good judgment of our wives or daughters. The peddler does not sell his goods until he has first allowed them to be examined; therefore, the purchaser has a better show to get what they want than they do when they give their orders through the 'phone. Again, the retail grocers will tell you these peddlers are a rough set, etc. Did you ever hear of any ungentlemanly or very rude act committed by one of them?

The whole thing is this: All classes of trade would be protected from competition. trade would be protected from competi-tion of any kind if it had its way, but tion of any kind if it had its way, but tell me, if you please, what other line of business or business men ever secured at the hands of a State Legislature such protection as these green grocers and market hucksters? Why did our law-makers enact any such law as this? Simply because they were misinformed. They were told by the retail grocers and market hucksters that the peddlers were all foretyners etc. This was toughs and all foreigners, etc. This was not true. Some of our energetic young men were the leading pedders at the time the unjust law was passed. None

of them were foreigners.

Another reason for the passage of this Another reason for the passage of this law was the argument used by the selfish retailers to the effect that most of the produce sold by peddlers was raised in other States and shipped here by commission merchants from other cities, etc. This was not a fair statement, as at least three-fourths of all the produce sold by these peddlers is grown in Virginia and sold here by commission merchants, who, I am told, pay a large license tax to do their business.

Now what shall be done? Shall the

and sold here by commission merchants, who, I am told, pay a large license tax to do their business.

Now what shall be done? Shall the present Legislature allow this unreasonable high license tax to stand as it is or reduce it to a reasonable figure, so all classes can have the benefit of thrue situation? Give all good, honest labor and business men a show. Fix the law so no disreputable chiracter can obtain a license, but make a law that will be within the reach of a man who wants to make an honest living and at the same time be a public benefactor.

I am sure that the Legislature does not know the wishes of their people, I am in a position to say truthfully that at least three-fourths of the people in our city would welcome the peddler on our streets to-morrow; therefore, I see no reason why the people's wishes should not have some consideration, as -well as a few green grocers and market hucksters.

Richmond, Va., February 3d.

Bichmond, Va., February 3d.

John Mitchell. John Mitchell did two things during the

recent miners' convention which should strengthen his influence with them. He opposed the proposition to build a house top him in this city and he declined the for him in this city and a control offer of a place on the Illinois State Board of Arbitration. Mr. Mitchell is ambitious for the miners' union, but not for himself.—Indianapolis Journal.





DAILY CALENDAR-FEB. 4

1996-James River was dug up from the

Our friend Thomas Bagiey, and his friend, Pinkey Crabbins, and another young man, with an overcoat on his arm, who wasn't introduced to us at the proper time, and ourself, walked from Monroe's to Dobbin's, in Manchester, just to hear Pinkey tell a story about one time when he caught a robber who took a suit of clothes from him and pawned it.

"Now, you see, it was this er w "Give us another," said Mr. Bagley.
"I was just going out the door when a great crush came, and the street car atopped in front of the monument—"
"I'll take a small one," said Mr. Bag-

"Til take a small one," said Mr. Bag-ley,
"Then the wind began to blow and the shrill whistle of Policeman Wright soun-ed upon the frosty air as the great crash came...."

"A cigar for me, this time," said Mr. Bagiey, and the young man with the overcoat on his arm said he didn't want

overcoat on his arm said he didn't want nothing more.

"When the coroner get through," continued Mr. Pinkey. "there was very little, and he said he didn't think he could hold a inquest for he got paid a salary now, and it didn't make no difference."

"What'll you have?" asked Mr. Bagley.

HARRY TUCKER.

A Contented Black Man. Editor of The Times-Dispatch:

Editor of The Times-Dispatch:

Sir,-"If any person conspire with another to incite the colored population of the State to acts of violence and war, against the white population, or incite the white population of the State to acts of violence and war against the colored population, he shall, whether such insurrection be made or not, be punished by confinement in the penitonitary not less than five nor more than ten years."—Section 36dl of the Code of Virgers." than five nor more than ter "-Section 3661 of the Code of Vir-

less than five nor more than ten years."—Section 3661 of the Code of Virginia, edition of 1837.

This is a sweeping penal statute, whose phraseology is not susceptible of misinterpretation. The enforcement of this statute, backed up by the new Constitution of the State, will bring to all of our fresides peace and contentment. It must be remembered that the Democratic party of Virginia has never falled to give us good judges. The late Major Baker P. Lee, judge of the County Courts for the counties of Warwick and Elizabeth City, said that if the devil came into his court he should have justice. Yes, and what was true in regard to the pure and impartial administration of justice in his court is true as to the other courts of Virginia. The rights of the black people in Virginia, in her courts, are carefully respected and protected.

I am a black lawyer, respected by both bench and bar, and am in either the County, Circuit or Corporation Courts almost every day, with almost as much business as anybody else since 1882 to attend to and have failed to see any injustice done to any one. So well satisfied am I with the administration of the government by the Democrats that I don't want to see any change.

Why there is such a fight made against the new Constitution of the State I know

government by the Democrats that I don't want to see any change.

Why there is such a fight made against the new Constitution of the State I know not. To my mind, if this instrument is let alone, it will result in greater good to the black people than to the white. Perhaps this was not intended, but a close inspection of the same will show that I am not wrong. Long before the adoption of the new Constitution I ceased to vote, because every Tom, Dick and Harry were on a level with me voting. But as soon as this new instrument took effect, finding myself competent, I registered and voted, and have ever since felt like a bird out of a dirty cage from long imprisonment. I am sorry it brings about the politicing of the county courts. airty cage from am sorry it brings the county co-come felt like a bird out of a dirty eige from long imprisonment. I am sorry it brings about the abolition of the county courts. Still, everything will come out right. Must we black people fight an instru-ment because it makes us more intelli-gent and owners of property? This in-strument has been in force only a few

black.

Where is all this prejudice said to be on the part of the white people against the colored people? The fact that we are here and doing well is conclusive evidence to my mind that they are our friends, because if they should say to us "go," we would be driven out of exis-tence like the dry leaves of autumn, scattered by a mighty wind. My wife scattered by a mighty wind, and are na-and children are all here and are na-tives of Virginia; all of my property, both real and personal, is here in Virginia. Therefore, I want all this foolishness to stop, and stop now. ishness to stop, and stop now, or else the statute here mentioned will be put into full force and effect. If a black into full force and effect. If a black man cannot live in Virginia he can live nowhere else, for I regard Virginia as being the cream of the world and the garden-spot of creation.

the the content of create.

Yery respectfully.

Your Black Friend,

JAS. A. FIELDS.

TWO CURRENTS AT ONCE ON SAME WIRE

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)
ITHACA, N. Y., February 3.—At a neeting of the Cornell Electric Society Professor Frederick Bedell, of the physics department of Cornell University, announced a new discovery in electric power transmission, whereby an alternating and a direct current may be sent at the same time. at the same time.

Experiments show great economy, the amount of copper being reduced one-half.

Where Mystery Lies,

ley. "So he decided that the man came to his of

"So he decided that the man came to his death like a martyr from the loss of life. Then the man jumped through the window and the pane was gone, and—"
"Too much froth on this for me," said Mr. Bagley, and the young man with the overcoat on his arm went over and leaned against the lunch counter.
"There were four people in the crowd," continued Mr. Pinkey, not minding the frequent interruptions, "and after the patrol wagon had left another one came from under the table, and that was one of the most exciting experiences of my career, for I could see that the blue bird was getting the best of the red one, and all my money—"

was getting the best of the red one, and all my money—"
"I believe I'll switch this time, and take some ginger ale," said the young man with the overcoat on his arm.
"Make mine short," said Mr. Bagley.
"The boat sailed along at a rapid rate," continued Mr. Pinkey, and before we reached shore the fellow who had the suit of clothes climbed up a tree and made good his escape."
"Here's a car," said Mr. Bagley, and the whole push got aboard and started for home.

HARRY TUCKER.

ment because it makes as more sent and owners of property? This instrument has been in force only a few days, but has done more good for us than anything that has happened since the war between the States. The great trouble with us is this: We will not save our money; and, as a general thing, persons who have no money are not respected, be they white or black.

Richmond, Va., Feb. 3.

The only remarkable thing that we can see about Apostle Reed Smoot, as judged from his published photograph, is that he over managed to get so many women to marry him.—Atlanta Journal.